



WHITESTOWN MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

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For Immediate Release:

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WHITESTOWN PLANS TOWN'S FIRST MLK DAY CELEBRATION

Part of Push for Year-long Diversity Programs

Whitestown, IN – For the first time in the Town's history, Whitestown will hold a community MLK Day celebration. It will be held at the Whitestown Municipal Complex on January, 18th 2016 in honor of the civil rights leader's birthday. Events will include showing part of Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech on the large screen in the gymnasium. There will also be an MLK Trivia Contest, and we will be collecting non-perishable food items to donate to a local food pantry. We invite all Whitestown families to come and learn about this national holiday.

This new event is part of a push to promote diversity programs throughout the year.

This is all thanks, in part, to one passionate resident.

Resident Kisha Rollins approached Town Manager Dax Norton last year to discuss the creation of a Diversity Committee, which will be a subcommittee of the Town's newly formed Human Rights Commission. The proposed Diversity Committee will work to bring recognition and awareness to events like MLK Day, Juneteenth, and Pride Events. Rollins has been identified as a candidate for appointment to the Human Rights Commission.

Background: On April 14th, 2015, Whitestown became the first community within the donut counties outside Indianapolis to designate LGBT citizens as a protected class. Our new anti-discrimination ordinance was passed unanimously by the Town Council, legally designating Whitestown as an open and inclusive community that prides itself on promoting diversity, equality, and tolerance among all of its citizens and businesses. The ordinance also called for the creation of our new Human Rights Commission.

The ordinance states that no individual should be discriminated against based upon their individual sex, race, color, national origin, religion, beliefs, disability, age, or sexual orientation. It publicly encourages people of varying and diverse backgrounds to call the Town home and encourages all of its governmental agencies, businesses, and individuals to embrace diversity and denounce discrimination.

WHAT: MLK Day Celebration

WHEN: Monday, January 18th at 10am

WHERE: Whitestown Municipal Complex

Fast Facts:

- Whitestown was the fastest growing community in Indiana 4 years in a row in 2015, with a projected population of 12,000 residents by 2020
- Ranked 7th best place in the country to buy a home by the National Association of Realtors in 2015
- Ranked 3rd best suburb to raise a family in Indianapolis metro by Niche Magazine in 2015

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